

**In the Claims:**

**Please cancel claims 2, 3, 11, 25, 26, and 34.**

**Please amend claims 1, 4, 6-10, 12, 14-24, 27- 33, 35, and 37-46 as follows:**

1. (Currently Amended): A method of operating an update messaging system, the method comprising:

in a ~~first~~ location server, receiving ~~[[a]]~~ an update message from a ~~first~~ gateway wherein the ~~first~~ update message indicates a ~~first~~ type of message for the ~~first~~ update message; and

determining a priority associated with the ~~first~~ update message based upon the ~~first~~ type of message for the ~~first~~ update message; and

in response to message congestion in the location server, dropping the update message if the priority associated with the update message requires dropping the update message.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising, in the ~~first~~ location server, receiving a second update message from the ~~first~~ gateway wherein the second update message indicates a second type message for the second update message.

5. (Original): The method of claim 4 further comprising determining a priority associated with the second update message based upon the second type of message for the second update message.

6. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 5 further comprising dropping in response to the message congestion in the location server, one of either the ~~first~~ update message or the second update message in order of the priorities associated with the ~~first~~ update message and the second update message.

7. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising, in the ~~first~~ location server, receiving a third update message from a second gateway wherein the third update message indicates a third type of message for the third update message and determining a priority associated with the third update message based upon the third type of message for the third update message.

8. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 7 further comprising dropping in response to the message congestion in the location server, one of either the ~~first~~ update message or the third update message in order of the priorities associated with the ~~first~~ update message and the third update message.

9. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising, in a second location server, receiving a fourth update message from the ~~first~~ gateway wherein the fourth update message indicates the ~~first~~ type of message for the fourth update message, and determining a priority associated with the fourth update message based upon the ~~first~~ type of message for the fourth update message.

10. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 9 further comprising dropping in response to message congestion in the second location server, the fourth update message if the priority associated with the fourth update message requires dropping the fourth update message.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 9 further comprising, in the second location server, receiving a fifth update message from the ~~first~~ gateway wherein the fifth update message indicates a fifth type of message for the fifth update message.

13. (Original): The method of claim 12 further comprising determining a priority associated with the fifth update message based upon the fifth type of message for the fifth update message.

14. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 13 further comprising dropping, in response to message congestion in the second location server, one of either the fourth update message or the fifth update message in order of the priorities associated with the fourth update message and the fifth update message.

15. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising updating a routing table with information delivered in the ~~first~~ update message.

16. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 comprising receiving the ~~first~~ update message into the location server utilizing a stream control transport protocol (SCTP).

17. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~first~~ media gateway comprises a telephony routing over internet protocol-lite (TRIP-lite) enabled gateway.

18. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~first~~ location server comprises a telephony routing over internet protocol (TRIP) enabled location server.

19. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~first~~ type indicates a route failure.

20. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~first~~ type indicates adding new routes.

21. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~first~~ type indicates keep alive messaging.

22. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~first~~ type indicates dynamic resource statistics.

23. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~first~~ type indicates load balancing statistics.

24. (Currently Amended): An update messaging system comprising:

~~a first~~ an interface configured to receive ~~a first~~ an update message from a ~~first~~ gateway into a ~~first~~ location server wherein the ~~first~~ update message indicates a ~~first~~ type of message for the ~~first~~ update message; ~~and~~

a ~~first~~ processing system configured to determine a priority associated with the ~~first~~ update message based upon the ~~first~~ type of message for the ~~first~~ update message and configured to drop, in response to message congestion in the location server, the update message if the priority associated with the update message requires dropping the update message.

25. (Canceled).

26. (Canceled).

27. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 24 wherein the ~~first~~ interface is further configured to receive a second update message from the ~~first~~ gateway wherein the second update message indicates a second type message for the second update message.

28. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 27 wherein the ~~first~~ processing system is further configured to determine a priority associated with the second update message based upon the second type of message for the second update message.

29. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 28 wherein the ~~first~~ processing system is further configured to drop, in response to the message congestion in the location server, one of either the ~~first~~ update message or the second update message in order of the priorities associated with the ~~first~~ update message and the second update message.

30. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 24 wherein the ~~first~~ interface is further configured to receive a third update message from a second gateway wherein the third update message indicates a third type of message for the third update message and wherein the ~~first~~ processing system is further configured to determine a priority associated with the third update message based upon the third type of message for the third update message.

31. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 30 wherein the ~~first~~ processing system is further configured to drop, in response to the message congestion in the location server, one of either the ~~first~~ update message or the third update message in order of the priorities associated with the ~~first~~ update message and the third update message.

32. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 24 further comprising a second interface configured to receive a fourth update message from the ~~first~~ gateway into a second location server wherein the fourth update message indicates the ~~first~~ type of message for the fourth update message, and further comprising a second processing system configured to determine a priority associated with the fourth update message based upon the ~~first~~ type of message for the fourth update message.

33. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 32 wherein the second processing system is further configured to drop, in response to message congestion in the second location server, the fourth update message if the priority associated with the fourth update message requires dropping the fourth update message.

34. (Canceled).

35. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 32 wherein the second interface is further configured to receive a fifth update message from the ~~first~~ gateway wherein the fifth update message indicates a fifth type of message for the fifth update message.

36. (Original): The system of claim 35 wherein the second processing system is further configured to determine a priority associated with the fifth update message based upon the fifth type of message for the fifth update message.

37. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 36 wherein the second processing system is further configured to drop, in response to message congestion in the second location server, one of either the fourth update message or the fifth update message in order of the priorities associated with the fourth update message and the fifth update message.

38. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 24 wherein the ~~first~~ processing system is further configured to update a routing table with information delivered in the ~~first~~ update message.

39. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 24 wherein the interface receives the ~~first~~ update message into the location server utilizing a stream control transport protocol (SCTP).

40. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 24 wherein the ~~first~~ gateway comprises a telephony routing over internet protocol-lite (TRIP-lite) enabled gateway.

41. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 24 wherein the ~~first~~ location server comprises a telephony routing over internet protocol (TRIP) enabled location server.

42. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 24 wherein the ~~first~~ type indicates a route failure.

43. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 24 wherein the ~~first~~ type indicates adding new routes.

44. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 24 wherein the ~~first~~ type indicates keep alive messaging.

45. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 24 wherein the ~~first~~ type indicates dynamic resource statistics.

46. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 24 wherein the ~~first~~ type indicates load balancing statistics.